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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

(42)

16 August 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

Summary

The enemy continued to enlarge the bridgehead in the US 24th Division area, with a new bridgehead reportedly formed in an area about six miles south of Taksong. Task Force Kean continued to consolidate its gains and concentrate on wiping out isolated pockets in the rear area. The enemy launched an early attack against the US 24th Division in the lower central sector, but after a three hour engagement the attack was stopped. The enemy is reported to have employed 13 tanks to penetrate the ROK 1st Division positions, and to have occupied a hill about 2 miles northeast of Waegwan. In the Yongdok sector, the ROK 3rd Division will be evacuated by water to Kuryong-Pu-Ri under cover of darkness.

UN naval forces continued close air and fire support of the ground forces. Two landing parties on the east coast above the 38th Parallel destroyed a railroad bridge and blocked a railroad tunnel.

UN air forces carried out the largest raid to date in the Korean war, using a flight of 100 B-29's with a total load of 1000 tons of bombs against enemy concentrations on the west bank of the Nakdong River.

Sector Reports

In the southern sector, the US 25th Division is consolidating its present defense positions and wiping out enemy pockets in the rear estimated to contain a total of 1300 men. The enemy in this area is reported to have reentered Kosong.

In the lower central sector where the enemy bridgehead is located above the junction of the Nam and Nakdong Rivers, the enemy launched an

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attack against the US 24th Division forces.

On the ROK 1st Division front above Waegwan, the enemy is continuing to exert heavy pressure, while holding a hill about 2 miles northeast of the city. The enemy in this area is being supported by 13 tanks which have penetrated the 1st Division positions.

There have been no significant changes in the northern sector.

In the Tongdok area, the ROK 3rd Division will be evacuated to Kuryong-Pu-Ri on the peninsula east of Pohang on 16 August under cover of darkness with naval support. There has been no other significant change on the east coast sector.

UN naval bombardment continued to be employed in support of ground tactical units. A railroad bridge was demolished and a tunnel was blocked on the east coast above the 38th Parallel by a raiding party from the USS H. A. Bass. No unusual activity was noted on the west coast.

UN air activities continued to be in support of ground units. A flight of 100 B-29's dropped 1000 tons of bombs in an area 3 1/2 by 7 1/2 miles on the west bank of the Nakdong River against heavy enemy concentrations reported in this area.

II. Other Developments

Both the Northern and Southern controlled radios gave extensive recognition to the fifth anniversary of V-J Day, but the day passed without any significant developments or announcements from the North. In Taegu, more than 2000 attended a public meeting to commemorate the anniversary. President Rhee, US Ambassador Muccio, and a UN representative gave addresses which were broadcast and also recorded for future use.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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